

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on July 27, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4-7, 9, 13-17, 29-30, 45, 49, and 53-54 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Liao (United States Patent No. 6,377,446, hereinafter "Liao"). The Examiner objected to claims 3, 8, 10-12, 18-28, 31-44, 46, 48, 50-52, and 55 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that claims 3, 8, 10-12, 18-28, 31-44, 46, 48, 50-52, and 55 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner allowed claims 56-68.

Applicant expresses appreciation for the Examiner's Interview that was conducted on December 6, 2006 and respectfully provides the following:

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 4-7, 9, 13-17, 29-30, 45, 49, and 53-54 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Liao. Applicant respectfully submits that the claim set as provided herein is not anticipated by the cited references.

The standard for a Section 102 rejection is set forth in M.P.E.P 706.02, which provides:

"... for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102, the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught must be inherently present."

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference does not teach every aspect of the amended claim set as provided herein and therefore does not anticipate the claims of the present invention. In particular, independent claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependent claim 24, which was identified by the Examiner as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claim 1 overcomes all

rejections made by the Examiner and is allowable as indicated by the Examiner in the Office Action. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claims that depend from independent base claim 1 place further limitations on otherwise allowable subject matter and thus also overcome all rejections made by the Examiner and are also allowable.

Independent claim 29 has been amended to include all of the limitations of dependent claim 33, which was identified by the Examiner as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 29 overcomes all rejections made by the Examiner and is allowable as indicated by the Examiner in the Office Action. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that the dependent claims that depend from independent base claim 29 place further limitations on otherwise allowable subject matter and thus also overcome all rejections made by the Examiner and are also allowable.

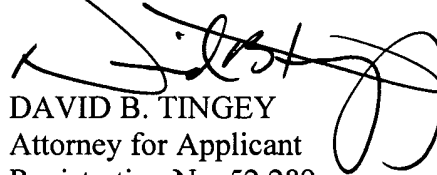
All other claims provided herein were identified by the Examiner in the Office Action as being allowable subject matter. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that for at least the reasons provided herein, the claim set as provided herein overcomes all rejections made by the Examiner and are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments made herein do not add new matter and that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this communication, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

DATED this 27th day of December, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,


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